

FLD 554

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SUBJECT	Military, Air, and Transportation Installations in the Estonian SSR	DATE DISTR.	17 August 1953	
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Transportation

1. The building of a second railway track on the Leningrad-Tallinn route is visualized in the plans for the future. Plans are believed to exist for the conversion of the narrow gauge lines to broad gauge. The main narrow gauge lines expected to be converted are as follows:
 - a. Tallinn (N 59-25, E 24-45)-Lelle (N 58-52, E 25-01)-Türi (N 58-48, E 25-25)-Moisaküla (N 58-06, E 25-11).
 - b. Türi - Tamsalu (N 59-09, E 26-07).
 - c. Lelle - Pärnu (N 58-23, E 24-30).
 - d. Pärnu - Valga (N 57-46, E 26-02).
2. The railway bridge at Narva (N 59-22, E 28-12) across the Narva River has been repaired and is in good order, but the stone bridge for road traffic remained unrepaired, and all the road traffic goes over a newly built wooden bridge close to the railway bridge.
3. The road bridge at Piritä, close to Tallinn, across the Piritä River has been repaired and is functioning.

Airfields

4. All pre-war Estonian airfields are said to be in order and active. It is known that a number of new airfields have been built, particularly in the area to the east of Tallinn, between the capital and Rakvere (N 59-21, E 26-21).
5. In Lanemaa, new airfields have been built in the districts of Ridala (N 58-51, E 23-37) and Matsalu (N 58-44, E 23-40).

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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-2-

6. Training of air personnel is constantly proceeding, which includes training in jet aircraft. The personnel was, until the present, exclusively Russian, but quite recently, in 1952/1953, a certain number of Estonians have been allowed to join the Soviet Air Force, but only as mechanics. Their training is carried out in Arkhangelsk.
7. One often sees military aircraft flying overhead and flights of jets are becoming familiar to Estonians.

Military

8. Tank units in Tallinn are stationed at Tondi, in the former Dvigatel Revolyutsiya RR Factory and at the Juhkentaal barracks.

Prohibited Zones

9. The northern and northwestern coast of Estonia is considered either a prohibited or restricted zone for the civilian population. Generally, the whole of the coastal zone is restricted and only those persons who have relatives in the zone can enter with special passes.
10. The harbor at Paldiski (N 59-21, E 24-03) is completely closed to civilians and one can only get as far as, but not including, Klooga (N 59-20, E 24-13).
11. The Estonian islands of Saaremaa and Hiiumaa belong to the restricted zone. People with close relatives on the islands may receive special passes to visit relatives either once or twice a year. But those without relatives there get no special permission to visit the islands. The inhabitants of the islands, or other restricted zones, may go outside the zone; nevertheless, permits must be obtained by them for such travelling and for exit and return to the zone.

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